

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ABE et al.

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Application No. Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: June 28, 2001

For: SEM

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND

MANUFACTURING METHOD

THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and/or Substitute Form PTO-1449 ("Form 1449") are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form 1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form 1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any reference submitted herewith as prior art should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

within any one of the following time periods: (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 of an international application; (c) before the mailing date

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	of a first Office Action on the merits; or (d) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.
	after (a), (b), (c) or (d) above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and includes one of:
	the Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below).
	the fee of \$180 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).
	after the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and on or before payment of the issue fee, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below), and the fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).
	after the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, and on or before payment of the issue fee, and within thirty days of receiving each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d)" below), and the fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below). NOTE: This is for original applications except applications for a design patent, filed on or after May 29, 2000, wherein a paper containing only an Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 is being filed.
Copie	s of the References
\boxtimes	Copies of the references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are enclosed herewith. Attached to each reference not in the English language is a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).
	A copy of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith.
	The references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 were previously identified in the parent application(s) of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120 in which copies of the references were previously furnished are set out below:

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	U.S. APPLIC	CATIONS	S	tatus (check d	me)
U.	S. APPLICATIONS U.S. FILING DATE PATENTED PENDING ABANDON				
1.					
2.					
3.					
Stater	nent under 37 CFR	1.97(e)			
	Information Discle foreign patent office	hereby states that each sure Statement was foreign a counterpart foreign filing of the Information	irst cited in a ign patent app	any commun lication not i	ication from a
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		in the amount of \$ count No. 12-1216 in the is enclosed for that pur		. (A d	uplicate copy of

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Authorization to Charge Additional Fees

 \boxtimes If any additional fees are owed in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216. (A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for that purpose.)

Instructions as to Overpayment

Credit Account No. 12-1216. Refund

Respectfully submitted,

LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

STA	TEMENT BY	Y AP	PLICANI	Group Art Unit	Unknown	
	(Use as many sheet	s as nec	eessary)	Examiner Name	Unknown	υ _ν
Sheet	1	of		Attorney Docket Number	401263/FUKAMI	

Filing Date

Application Number

First Named Inventor

Complete if Known

Unknown

ABE

June 28, 2001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
	Doc. No.	U.S. Patent Document			Date of	Siling Pate If			
Examiner Initials		Application or Patent Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication	Filing Date If Appropriate			
			 						
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		Foreign Patent Document				N PATENT DOCUMENTS		Translation	
Examiner Initials	Doc. No.	Office	Application or Patent Number	Kind Code	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication	Yes	No++	
11(10082)	A 1	JP	2000-156464	Α	Wada et al.	6/6/2000		X+	
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I had to some of the outher the CADITAL		OTHER - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item	Translation		
Examiner Initials	1	Doc. No.	(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number (s). publisher, city and/or country where published.	Yes	No*+
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Date Considered Examiner Signature

^{*} A concise statement of relevance is being submitted in lieu of a translation. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).

+ An English-language equivalent/patent, or an English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search report or action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted in lieu of a concise explanation of relevance under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).